What is claimed is:

1. A method of transferring image data from an image server storing image data comprising a plurality of levels to a terminal connected to the image server, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining information regarding the terminal; and

transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information regarding the terminal.

2. A method of transferring image data to a terminal connected to an image server from the server which comprises means for storing image data and converting a level of an image to be output, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining information regarding the terminal; and

transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information regarding the terminal.

3. A data transfer method as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the information regarding the terminal is information regarding a user of the terminal input from the terminal.

4. A data transfer method as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the information regarding the terminal is information specific to the terminal.

5. A data transfer method as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein the information regarding the terminal is information regarding usage of the image data and input from the terminal.

6. An apparatus for transferring image data from an image server storing image data comprising a plurality of levels to a terminal connected to the image server, the apparatus comprising:

5   terminal information obtaining means for obtaining information regarding the terminal; and

transfer means for transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information regarding the terminal.

10   7. An apparatus for transferring image data to a terminal connected to an image server from the server which comprises means for storing image data and converting a level of an image to be output, the apparatus comprising:

terminal information obtaining means for obtaining

15   information regarding the terminal; and

transfer means for transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information regarding the terminal.

8. A computer readable recording medium storing a

20   program to cause a computer to execute a method of transferring image data from an image server storing image data comprising a plurality of levels to a terminal connected to the image server, the program comprising the procedures of:

obtaining information regarding the terminal; and

25   transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information

regarding the terminal.

9. A computer readable recording medium storing a program to cause a computer to execute a method of transferring image data to a terminal connected to an image server from the server which comprises means for storing image data and converting a level of an image to be output, the program comprising the procedures of:

obtaining information regarding the terminal; and

transferring to the terminal the image data at a level appropriate for the terminal, based on the information regarding the terminal.